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In the United States Patent and Trademark Office Patent Examining Operation

Applicants:

KEIL, KURT

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Examiner: Phi Dieu Tran A

MEMBERS WITH FLARED OUT END SEGMENTS FOR

CONJOINING

Via Central Fax 571/273/8300

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SECOND REPLY BRIEF ON MERITS TO THE FINAL PTO ACTION OF 07/27/05

Commissioner for Patents Box 1450 Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Dear Sir.

Preamble. The latest PTO action of July 27th last, having an extendable shortened statutory for appeal, presently set to expire on 26 Oct 2005, was made in response to our substantive reply brief of 02 May 2005. The last Applicant reply brief was filed August 8, 2005, canceling finally rejected claims 21, 22, 24, 25 and 26, leaving allowed claims 1-20 and 23.

The PTO Action of 07/27/2005 stated that the amended original claims 1-20 and 23 were allowed, and claims 21, 22, and 24-26 were finally rejected. They were duly cancelled in the brief filed 8 August 2005. No further amendments to the 21 allowed Applicant offered claims. Those allowable claims were presented in clean copy in papers filed 02 May 04 and 26 July 04.